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Governor Baker Nominates Attorney Kathleen Sandman of Springfield to the Probate and Family Court

BOSTON— Today, Governor Charlie Baker nominated Kathleen A. Sandman to serve as an Associate Justice of the Probate and Family Court, Circuit Division. Sandman has 28 years of legal experience and concentrates her practice in family litigation, real estate law and personal injury.

Sandman has been nominated to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of The Honorable Stephen M. Rainaud.

“Attorney Sandman’s knowledge of the law, courtroom experience and temperament make her well suited for the Probate and Family Courts in Western Massachusetts,” **said Governor Charlie Baker**. “If confirmed, I am confident that her wisdom and commitment to justice will serve the litigants and attorneys in the this court well.”

“I am pleased with the nomination of this intelligent and skilled Springfield attorney,” **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. “If confirmed by the Governor’s Council, the Probate and Family Court will benefit greatly from Attorney Sandman’s wisdom and judgment.”

The Probate and Family Court Department has jurisdiction over family-related and probate matters such as divorce, paternity, child support, custody, parenting time, adoption, termination of parental rights, abuse prevention and wills, estates, trusts, guardianships, conservatorships, and changes of name.

For more information on the Probate & Family Court,
visit: <http://www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/trial-court/pfc/>

Judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor's Council. Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) and recommended to the governor. Governor Baker established the JNC in February, 2015 pursuant to Executive Order 558, a non-partisan, non-political Commission composed of volunteers from a cross-section of the Commonwealth's diverse population to screen judicial applications. Twenty-one members were later appointed to the JNC in April, 2015.

About Kathleen A. Sandman

Kathleen Sandman has served as a sole practitioner since 2009. Sandman began her legal career in 1987 as an associate attorney for the Springfield, MA firm of Odierna & Beaumier and then joined the Wellesley, MA firm of Gould and Gould, LLP. In 1989, she became a partner at Connor, Sandman and Weisser, LLP in Agawam, MA and has concentrated her practice on probate and family litigation, divorce, paternity, guardianship litigation, estate planning and personal injury law. Attorney Sandman is affiliated with several volunteer organizations working to assist litigants in the Probate and Family Court. From 2000-2004, Attorney Sandman served as a Planning Board Member in the town of Granville, MA. Sandman earned a juris doctor degree from Western New England College School of Law in 1987 and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Siena College as a magna cum laude graduate in 1984, studying political science. She currently lives with her family in Springfield, MA.

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